

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /128 W

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R 202308Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5958

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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AMEMBASSY PARIS FOR UNESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UN

SUBJECT: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING: US STATEMENT

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF US STATEMENT DELIVERED
BEFORE SUBJECT COMMITTEE ON FEBRUARY 20.

QUOTESTATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JACOB M. MYERSON,
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE, AD HOC
COMMITTEE ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 20, 1976

MR. CHAIMAN,

NONE OF US CAN AFFORD TO UNDERESTIMATE THE SIGNIFICANCE
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OR THE DIFFICULTY OF THE TASK ASSIGNED TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

NEITHER CAN WE AFFORD TO CLOSE OUR EYES TO THE PERSISTENCE AND DETERMINATION REQUIRED IF WE ARE TO SUCCEED. MY DELEGATION HAS HAD VARIOUS OCCASIONS IN RECENT MONTHS TO REITERATE THE IMPORTANCE IT ATTACHES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3362. WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN NOTE OF THE NUMEROUS STEPS COMPLETED OR UNDERWAY TO FULFILL THE COMMITMENTS REFLECTED IN THAT RESOLUTION.

THIS COMMITTEE'S MANDATE--SET FORTH IN PART VI OF RESOLUTION 3362--MUST, IN OUR VIEW, BE CONSIDERED AS A NECESSARY COMPLEMENT TO THE MANY POLICY AND OPERATIONAL MEASURES SET IN TRAIN BY THE SPECIAL SESSION. THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION CONTINUES TO BELIEVE, AS INDICATED IN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH AT THE SPECIAL SESSION, THE REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM SHOULD BE A PRIORITY CONSIDERATION IN ANY OVERALL STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THIS BODY LAST NOVEMBER, I STATED THAT "WE HAVE BELIEVED--AND WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE--THAT RATIONALIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE SYSTEM WILL SERVER THE COMMON INTERESTS OF ALL COUNTRIES OVER AND BEYOND ANY DIFFERENCES REGARDING POLICY QUESTIONS OR IDEOLOGY." ON THAT OCCASION I ALSO PLEDGED TO YOU, TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU AND TO THE ENTIRE COMMITTEE, THE ENTHUSIASTIC COOPERATION OF MY DELEGATION. I WISH TODAY TO REITERATE THAT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND THAT PROMISE OF COOPERATION.

IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT IN CONFIRMING ITS ACCEPTANCE OF RESOLUTION 3362 THE UNITED STATES ENTERED A RESERVATION ABOUT THE REFERENCES TO CERTAIN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS INCLUDING THOSE OF THE SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION. THE FACT THAT OUR RESERVATIONS ARE FIRMLY MAINTAINED NEED NOT INTERFERE WITH THE WORK OF THIS COMMITTEE, NOR NEED IT PREVENT A CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME SO LONG AS THE WILL TO COOPERATE EXISTS ON ALL SIDES. I AM CONFIDENT THAT IT DOES.

WHY RESTRUCTURING? IT IS NOT MY INTENTION TO ENGAGE IN LENGTHY PHILOSOPHICAL DISCOURSE. NEITHER IS IT WORTHWHILE TO REPEAT IN DETAIL THE MANY CONVINCING REASONS WHY THE UN SYSTEM NEEDS TO BE STRENGTHENED AND RATIONALIZED WITH BETTER
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PROGRAM COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR TO ALL THAT THE INCREASING SCOPE AND COMPLEXITY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THE SYSTEM, AND THE INCAPABLE PRESSURES FOR FISCAL AUSTERITY, REQUIRE CONSIDERED, PRACTICAL, AND TIMELY RESPONSES. ALL OF OUR GOVERNMENTS--AND THE DEVELOPING NATIONS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE--HAVE A RIGHT TO EXPECT MAXIMUM BENEFITS FROM FUNDS PUT INTO THE SYSTEM. THIS IS TRUE FOR PROGRAM DELIVERY; IT SHOULD ALSO

BE TRUE FOR POLICY ANALYSIS AND PROGRAM PLANNING. WITH MORE EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS, GOVERNMENTS WILL BE IN A MUCH BETTER POSITION TO DEFEND THE THESIS THAT INCREASED RESOURCES ARE NEEDED. THIS IS NOT TO DENY THE MANY AND VARIED CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE INSTITUTIONS AS THEY HAVE DEVELOPED OVER THE YEARS. IN TODAY'S WORLD, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT SOMETHING MORE THAN A "BUSINESS AS USUAL" APPROACH IS REQUIRED. AN IMPROVED AND SMOOTHLY-FUNCTIONING SYSTEM WILL ENHANCE THE REPUTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS WITH OUR PEOPLES AND WITH OUR PARLIAMENTS.

MY DELEGATION HAS LISTENED WITH GREAT INTEREST TO THE PRESENTATIONS BY THE DISTINGUISHED HEADS OF AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS WHO HAVE APPEARED BEFORE US. WE HAVE ALSO LISTENED ATTENTIVELY TO THE VIEWS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING ADDITIONAL STIMULATING OPINIONS IN THE COURSE OF THIS MEETING. WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN SERIOUSLY, MR. CHAIRMAN, YOUR SUGGESTION THAT THE CURRENT SESSION BE USED FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS. WE ARE BOTH HEARTENED AND CONCERNED BY WHAT WE HAVE HEARD; HEARTENED BY THE SOBER AND PRACTICAL ATTITUDES WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED; CONCERNED BY THE VIEWS OF SOME ABOUT THE NORMITY OF THE TASKS, AND THE ADMITTEDLY HEAVY SCHEDULE OF OTHER UN-RELATED ACTIVITIES. WE AGREE WITH THOSE WHO POINT OUT THAT WE MUST PROCEED WITH PRUDENCE, SENSITIVITY AND THOROUGHNESS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT EVENTS SCHEDULED LATER THIS YEAR, FOR EXAMPLE THE FOURTH SESSION OF UNCTAD, WILL HAVE A MAJOR BEARING ON OUR COMMITTEE'S DELIBERATIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, MY DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT WE MUST GET ON WITH OUR TASK LEST THE ENTIRE EFFORT FALTER. THE TIME TO BEGIN IS NOW. OUR MANDATE IS CLEAR AND THE SITUATION REQUIRES A RESPONSE. IN A SENSE, RESTRUCTURING OF THE UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM IS TAKING PLACE ALL THE TIME. THE LEADERSHIP AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS OF MANY AGENCIES HAVE RECENTLY

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CHANGED. THIS FACT CREATES A BRIEF MOMENT OF FLEXIBILITY THAT WE ARE UNLIKELY TO WITNESS AGAIN FOR A LONG TIME. THE RECENT SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME MADE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT THE SYSTEM IS FRAGILE. THE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES OF UNDP HAVE HAD--AND MAY CONTINUE TO HAVE--A DISTURBING EFFECT ON THE COHESIVENESS OF THE SYSTEM AS A WHOLE.

IN ADDITION TO THE THREAT OF FRAGMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM, RESULTING FROM FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES AND PRESSURES EXPERIENCED BY THE CENTRAL FUNDING BODIES, WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH NUMEROUS PARTIAL AND POTENTIALLY CONTRADICTORY DEVELOPMENTS. SEVERAL UN AGENCIES AND BODIES ARE CURRENTLY CONSIDERING THEIR OWN REORGANIZATION. NEW BODIES ARE NOW BEING CREATED. WE NEED NOT FEAR THESE DEVELOPMENTS--SOME ARE

INDEED WELCOME--SO LONG AS THE SEPARATE PIECES FIT INTO A COHERENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PATTERN. THIS COMMITTEE SHOULD MAKE ITS CONTRIBUTION. OTHERWISE, THERE WILL BE A KIND OF DE FACTO RESTRUCTURING WITH SERIOUS RISK OF UNCERTAIN AND EVEN NEGATIVE RESULTS.

IT HAS BEEN STATED FREQUENTLY THAT THE GREATEST RESOURCES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IS ITS PEOPLE. THIS IS TRUE. WE OWE IT TO THOSE WHO SERVE THE CAUSE OF DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO PROVIDE THE BEST INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK POSSIBLE CONSISTENT WITH AVAILABLE MATERIAL RESOURCES.

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ACTION IO-11

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 EB-07 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /128 W

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R 202308Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5959

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

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ANY STUDENT OF BUREAUCRACY KNOWS THAT IDEAL SYSTEMS DO NOT EXIST IN THE REAL WORLD. BUT WE CAN SURELY AGREE WITH THE PROPOSITION THAT POORLY-COORDINATED SYSTEMS WASTE RESOURCES, FRUSTRATE INTELLECTUAL ENERGIES, AND PROVIDE MIXED RESULTS AT BEST. UNLESS WE ARE DECIDED TO BEGIN OUR EFFORTS IN

EARNEST, WE FACE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE YEAR INTENDED FOR RESTRUCTURING THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM MAY CONCLUDE WITH THAT SYSTEM IN GREATER DISARRAY THAN EVER BEFORE.

THE PICTURE I HAVE TRIED TO SKETCH IS A CAUSE FOR CONCERN BUT CERTAINLY NOT FOR DESPAIR. MY DELEGATION DOES NOT PRETEND THAT THE TASK OF RESTRUCTURING CAN BE COMPLETED THIS YEAR. IT DOES NOT PRETEND THAT A FULL AND COMPLETE PLAN CAN BE DEVELOPED AND APPROVED THIS YEAR. THE PROCESS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE LONG AND ARDUOUS. AND WE SHALL NO UNCLASSIFIED

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DOUBT HAVE TO ADJUST OUR APPROACH AS WE PROCEED. IF THE NEED FOR ACTION IS ACCEPTED, HOWEVER, WE MUST CONCENTRATE IMMEDIATELY ON A PROGRAM OF WORK WHICH IS COMMENSURATE WITH THE CHALLENGE AND WHICH IS SUSCEPTIBLE OF FULFILLMENT.

MR. CHAIRMAN, AGAINST THE FOREGOING BACKGROUND, MY DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT FOR THE COMMITTEE'S CONSIDERATION WHAT MIGHT BE TERMED A TWO-LEVEL APPROACH. THE FIRST LEVEL, AS YOU YOURSELF HAVE SUGGESTED, WOULD INVOLVE IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR PROBLEM AREAS REQUIRING PRIORITY ATTENTION. WE UNDERSTAND THE TERM "PRIORITY" TO REFER TO THOSE LARGE AND SIGNIFICANT ASPECTS OF RESTRUCTURING THAT IT IS REASONABLE TO TAKE UP GIVEN THE AVAILABILITY OF FACTUAL INFORMATION AND POLICY DATA IN RELATION TO OUR OWN CALENDAR. THUS, WE WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE ASKED TO AGREE ON A PROPOSED RANK ORDER OF SUBJECTS IN TERMS OF THEIR RELATIVE SUBSTANTIVE IMPORTANCE TO THE SYSTEM OR TO INDIVIDUAL DELEGATIONS.

AT THE SAME TIME THAT WE BEGIN THE JOB OF IDENTIFYING THE MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN, WE SUGGEST A SECOND LEVEL OF ACTIVITY. THIS WOULD INVOLVE THE IDENTIFICATION OF SEVERAL SPECIFIC, CONCRETE ACTIONS WHICH ARE DIFFICULT BUT OF A LESS COMPREHENSIVE NATURE. THE OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO REACH AGREEMENT IN THE NEAR TERM ON SEVERAL OF THESE SPECIFIC ISSUES. ACTIONS ON THIS SECOND LEVEL NEED NOT PREJUDICE ULTIMATE RECOMMENDATIONS OR DECISION REGARDING A MORE COMPREHENSIVE ADAPTATION OF THE SYSTEM AS A WHOLE. THE APPROACH MY DELEGATION SUGGESTS WOULD, WE BELIEVE, HELP ASSURE THE NECESSARY MOMENTUM FOR OUR WORK; MAKE CLEAR TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND TO OUR RESPECTIVE CAPITALS THIS COMMITTEE'S SERIOUS AND PRACTICAL APPROACH TO ITS RESPONSIBILITIES; AND, ABOVE ALL, RESULT IN SOME ACTIONS WHICH ARE INDISPUTABLY BENEFICIAL IN THEIR OWN RIGHT.

WITH REGARD TO WHAT I HAVE TERMED THE FIRST LEVEL OF ACTIVITY, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER ANY REASONABLE METHOD OF IDENTIFYING MAJOR PRIORITY AREAS FOR EXAMINATION. WE

THINK THE MOST LOGICAL PLACE TO BEGIN IS WITH THE REPORT OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS. IT IS THE MOST RECENT AND COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE RESTRUCTURING PROBLEM AVAILABLE TO US. IT IS THE RESULT OF A VERY INTENSIVE EFFORT BY A DIS-
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TINGUISHED GROUP. IT REFLECTS THE UNANIMOUS VIEWS OF EXPERTS WHO ARE FULLY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED NATIONS. WE, LIKE OTHERS, ARE IN NO POSITION TO ENDORSE THE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS NOW. IT IS EVEN PROBABLE THAT WE SHALL FIND SOME OF THEM UNACCEPTABLE. STILL, WE BELIEVE THAT THIS COMMITTEE SHOULD IN ONE FASHION OR ANOTHER CONSIDER ALL OF THE EXPERTS' FINDINGS--ALONG WITH OTHER PERTINENT MATERIAL. THE PRESENT GENERAL DEBATE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ADD TO OUR FUND OF IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS.

AS TO THE GENERAL THEMES THAT MIGHT BE ADDRESSED ON THE FIRST LEVEL, I WISH AT THIS STAGE ONLY TO RECALL THE FIVE MAJOR AREAS IDENTIFIED IN SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH AT THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION. THESE ARE FAMILIAR BOTH FROM THE EXPERTS' REPORT AND FROM DISCUSSIONS TO DATE IN THIS COMMITTEE.

THESE ARE:

--RATIONALIZATION OF THE UN SYSTEM'S FRAGMENTED ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. IN THIS AREA, I HAVE ALREADY REFERRED TO THE UNDP'S FINANCIAL CRISIS AND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING OTHER AGENCIES. WE BELIEVE THAT A COMMON UNDERSTANDING IS EMERGING REGARDING THE NEED FOR A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT.

--STRENGTHENING LEADERSHIP WITHIN THE CENTRAL SECRETARIAT FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT. FINDING THE PROPER BALANCE BETWEEN THE CENTER, ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE SPECIALIZED AND FIELD AGENCIES ON THE OTHER, WILL SURELY BE ONE OF OUR MOST DIFFICULT AND TIME-CONSUMING TASKS. ULTIMATELY, HOWEVER, WE SHALL HAVE TO GIVE THIS MATTER MOST CAREFUL ATTENTION.

--STREAMLINING OF ECOSOC. MY DELEGATION HAS NOT YET REACHED ANY HARD AND FAST CONCLUSIONS ON THIS QUESTION. WE DO, HOWEVER, FAVOR STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF ECOSOC AND TAKING A CLOSE LOOK AT THE POSSIBILITIES OF SIMPLIFYING, IF NOT ELIMINATING, THE SYSTEM OF COMMITTEES AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES.

--BETTER CONSULTATION PROCEDURES TO ASSURE EFFECTIVE AGREEMENT AMONG MEMBERS WITH A GENERAL INTEREST IN A SUBJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION. IT MIGHT BE WORTHWHILE IN THIS CONNECTION TO RE-EXAMINE RECENT EXPERIENCE IN THE GENERAL
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ASSEMBLY AND ELSEWHERE. REGARDING THIS MATTER, VIEWS PRESENTED BY SEVERAL OF THE DISTINGUISHED HEADS OF INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES MERIT REFLECTION.

--A MECHANISM TO PROVIDE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WITH AN INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN PROGRAMS. I SHALL HAVE MORE TO SAY ON THIS SUBJECT IN A MOMENT.

NOW, MR. CHAIRMAN, LET ME TURN TO WHAT I HAVE CHARACTERIZED AS A "SECOND LEVEL" OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS FOR EARLY CONSIDERATION.

FIRST, A WORD ABOUT PERSONNEL MATTERS. WE ARE ALL AWARE OF THE LONG-STANDING PROBLEMS OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT IN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM. THESE RESULT IN LARGE MEASURE FROM THE CUMBERSOMENESS OF INDIVIDUAL AGENCY PERSONNEL PROGRAMS AND FROM THE FACT THAT TO A LARGE DEGREE, THEY OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY. MY DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT THIS COMMITTEE COULD PERFORM A SERVICE BY RECOGNIZING CLEARLY THE NEED FOR A THOROUGHGOING EXAMINATION OF THE MERITS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR A UNIFIED PERSONNEL SYSTEM. ABOVE ALL, WE SHOULD URGE PRIORITY ACTION BY THE APPROPRIATE BODIES IN THIS FIELD.

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PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5960

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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THE CONCEPT OF A UNIFIED PERSONNEL SYSTEM IS, OF COURSE, NOT A NEW ONE. INDEED, THE FUNDAMENTAL PURPOSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION--AN EXPERT BODY ESTABLISHED BY THE 29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY--IS TO BRING ABOUT THE REALIZATION OF THIS CONCEPT. FOR VARIOUS REASONS, PRIMARILY ITS VERY SHORT EXISTENCE AND PREOCCUPATION WITH SALARY QUESTIONS, THE ICSC HAS NOT SO FAR BEEN IN A POSITION TO TACKLE THE ISSUES RELATED TO A UNITED PERSONNEL SYSTEM. THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, AS AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY, MIGHT WELL PROVIDE THE CATALYST FOR EARLY ACTION BY MAKING AN APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATION.

THE VIRTUES OF A UNIFIED SYSTEM IN TERMS OF IMPROVED MANPOWER UTILIZATION, POSSIBLE ECONOMIES, INCREASED STAFF MORAL, AND EQUIVALENCE IN JOB CLASSIFICATIONS COULD BE SIGNIFICANT. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THIS COMMITTEE, IT
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COULD SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR REFORM OF THE STANDARD COST CONCEPT WHICH HAS BEEN CAUSING CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES FOR SOME OF THE LARGER OPERATIONAL AGENCIES.

SECONDLY MY DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A UNIFIED PROCUREMENT SYSTEM HAVE NOT RECEIVED ADEQUATE ATTENTION. A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF MATERIALS PURCHASED AND UTILIZED WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ARE--OR OUGHT TO BE--COMMON TO ALL ELEMENTS IN THE SYSTEM. A CONSIDERABLE SHARE OF PROCUREMENT FUNDS IS USED TO COVER EXPENSES FOR MOTOR VEHICLES, OFFICE SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND NUTRIENTS WHICH ARE SUSCEPTIBLE TO STANDARDIZATION AND BULK PURCHASING. UNICEF HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT STRIDES IN THIS DIRECTION. WE BELIEVED THAT IMPARTIAL EXAMINATION OF THIS QUESTION COULD LAY THE BASIS FOR MORE TIMELY PROCUREMENT AND FOR ECONOMIES RESULTING FROM LARGE-SCALE PURCHASING, MODERN METHODS OF INVENTORY CONTROL, AND EFFICIENT UTILIZATION OF STOCKS.

A THIRD ITEM ON OUR LIST OF POSSIBLE CONCRETE ACTIONS CONCERNS THE EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EFFECTIVE AND INDEPENDENT PROGRAM EVALUATION MECHANISM. THE FACTS AND VIEWS

PRESENTED TO THIS COMMITTEE BY MR. ROBERT MCNAMARA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT, ARE SUGGESTIVE OF WHAT MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED. A CAPACITY FOR PROVIDING GOVERNING BODIES AND MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WITH SYSTEMATIC REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS OF PROGRAMS AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION WOULD STRENGTHEN CONFIDENCE IN THE INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS OF THE SYSTEM. IT WOULD STRENGTHEN CONFIDENCE IN THE SYSTEM AS A WHOLE. SUCH ASSESSMENTS SHOULD, IN OUR VIEW, BE PREPARED BY HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND INDEPENDENT PROFESSIONALS. THEY WOULD SERVE TO MEASURE SYSTEMATICALLY THE EXTENT TO WHICH PROGRAM OBJECTIVES ARE ACHIEVED. THEY WOULD PERMIT EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT OF PROGRAMS IN RELATION TO THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS OF WHICH THEY ARE A PART. LASTLY, THEY WOULD PROVIDE A TOOL WITH WHICH TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PROGRAM EXECUTION. A CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO EVALUATION CAN IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND MORALE. IT CAN HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES GET THE MOST BENEFIT FROM

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AVAILABLE RESOURCES.

THE UNITED STATES HAS LONG ADVOCATED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT EVALUATION MECHANISM, MOST RECENTLY IN THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM AND BUDGET MACHINERY. IT SEEMS TO US ONLY APPROPRIATE THAT THIS IDEA BE CONSIDERED IN THE CONTEXT OF RESTRUCTURING. MOREOVER, THE MANDATE OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT, WHICH MIGHT BE CONVERTED TO PERFORM THE FUNCTION WE HAVE IN MIND, IS TO BE REVIEWED AT THE 31ST SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

IN CONCLUSION, MR. CHAIRMAN, LET ME SUM UP. MY DELEGATION APPROACHES OUR WORK IN A POSITIVE AND FLEXIBLE SPIRIT. WE ARE OPEN-MINDED AS TO METHOD AND TIMETABLE. YET, WE CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT THAT THIS COMMITTEE COME TO GRIPS WITH THE ISSUES BEFORE IT AND THAT IT PRODUCE SOME PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS THIS YEAR. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT WE HAVE SUGGESTED A TWO-LEVEL APPROACH. WITH GOOD WILL AND PERSEVERANCE, WE CAN HELP FORESTALL DANGERS TO THE SYSTEM. WITH GOOD WILL AND PERSEVERANCE WE CAN CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO A STRENGTHENED UNITED NATIONS BETTER EQUIPPED TO FACE THE CHALLENGES OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL MEMBER GOVERNMENTS IN SERVING MANKIND.'''''

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, REORGANIZATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN00658
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760065-0159
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760228/aaaaayab.tel
Line Count: 488
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cahillha
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by oatisao>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2005 by cahillha>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING: US STATEMENT
TAGS: EGEN, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006